

Emergency Response

Crucial Counseling in the Early Hours of a Crisis

Decisions made in the first 48 hours of an emergency can have impacts that resound for years—and can make the difference between a minor disruption and a major calamity. Pillsbury’s Emergency Response Team draws on a deep well of high-level experience to help clients take rapid action to mitigate the impacts of health, safety, environmental or other critical incidents and the immediate legal issues that arise from them. Our lawyers have helped clients navigate a wide range of emergencies as diverse as environmental, aviation and industrial accidents, natural disasters, terrorist acts, product recalls, privacy breaches and whistleblower cases. Having served in leadership positions in multiple federal and state regulatory agencies, our lawyers provide a comprehensive perspective on emergency response.

Clients have relied on Pillsbury during some of the most daunting emergencies of recent decades—ranging from Three Mile Island to the Exxon Valdez to the Deepwater Horizon—and during hundreds of potential crises that did not become household names because we helped organizations manage them successfully. Clients turn to us amid rapidly unfolding events with significant legal implications: they know we can guide them toward the best possible outcome. Our legal analysis of the investigation and its results and the advice we give to our clients remains privileged.

OUR EMERGENCY RESPONSE CAPABILITIES

Handled Significant Industrial Disasters

Our lawyers have worked on some of the most significant industrial disasters in the United States, including the two worst refinery accidents in the past 20 years. They have provided legal advice during every aspect of a company’s response, including incident reporting requirements, site stabilization, evidence preservation, internal investigations and coordinating investigations by government agencies.

Preeminent in Environmental / Industrial Law

Ranked number one in America by *U.S. News and World Report*, our Environmental practice is adept at handling simultaneous reviews by multiple regulatory agencies and has shaped clients’ responses to investigations by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB), Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), Chemical Safety Board (CSB) and other regulatory agencies. With escalating criminal prosecutions for worker endangerment and environmental crimes, we regularly advise clients on post-incident grand jury investigations by the Justice Department’s Environment and Natural Resources Division and district attorneys across the nation, including California.

A Leader in Energy Industry Representation

Pillsbury established the nation's first nuclear energy practice more than 50 years ago and remains one of the preeminent law firms in this arena. Further, Pillsbury's 140+ year history with the oil and gas industry dates to the incorporation of Standard Oil. While we have assisted with a multitude of emergencies for the oil and gas industry, the firm has advised clients on more than 100 oil spills, including the Deepwater Horizon oil spill, and resulting claims for natural resource and other damages.

World-Leading Practice in Privacy and Data Issues

Pillsbury has helped clients investigate and address security breaches in which millions of individuals' information was at risk, deliberate breaches by electronic attackers and dishonest employees, and in inadvertent breaches due to software misconfiguration or hardware disposal.

Market-Leading Aviation and Transportation Incident Team

We have represented clients in Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), Transportation Security Administration (TSA), NTSB and FBI investigations, enforcement actions and criminal prosecutions after airline crashes and acts of sabotage. Our lawyers coordinate with federal investigators, prepare witnesses, conduct media training, assess insurance coverage and provide vigorous defense of companies invested in crises and disasters.

Veteran Construction Accident Team

Our Construction Counseling & Dispute Resolution team has handled many building-related accidents, such as the crane collapses at Milwaukee's Miller Park and the National Cathedral in Washington, D.C.

A Courtroom-Ready Team of Advocates

When an emergent situation requires legal action, Pillsbury can mobilize a high-powered litigation team quickly, drawing on the talents of more than 200 litigators worldwide. Our Corporate Investigations & White Collar Defense practice is ranked among the best in the U.S. and includes numerous former federal prosecutors and regulators. We regularly investigate and advise on situations involving antitrust, environmental regulation, financial frauds, foreign corrupt practices, government contracts, health care and securities law. Pillsbury is also a leader in the protection against, and efficient resolution of, whistleblower allegations, successfully defending hundreds of claims over the past decade.

Crisis Communications and Public Relations

When a crisis occurs, it can impact every aspect of an organization, from investor and customer relations to brand loyalty and employee morale. Pillsbury has partnered with leading crisis communications agencies, chosen specifically for their strong background advising on crisis issues, 24/7 accessibility, experience working collaboratively with legal counsel and proven success at managing an organization's reputation.

Seamless Integration with Crisis Management Team

When a company faces a crisis situation, the decisions made in the days and weeks following the incident will disproportionately affect the post-crisis outcomes. Our multi-disciplinary crisis management response team optimizes the company's outcomes by strategically managing the full suite of potential liabilities that flow from a crisis event. We help manage impacts to business and professional reputations, third-party business relationships, public perceptions, and perceptions by key regulatory agency and government personnel. Pillsbury can dramatically shorten a company's response time in the days immediately following a crisis event and help the company manage, and in many instances, avoid long-term business and reputational liabilities. Through breadth and depth of experience, and a disciplined and tested process, Pillsbury's Crisis Management services help companies survive, and even thrive, after crisis events.

Are you Prepared?

Pillsbury is. We are ready to assist 24 hours a day. We help our clients prepare, too. We can help assemble in-house emergency response teams that are prepared to act at a moment's notice. We also audit these capabilities and conduct customized drills for legal and executive staff.

PILLSBURY CRISIS HOTLINE:

1-866-716-0445

crisismanagement@pillsburylaw.com

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